

Notes on *Matheteus theveneti* LeConte¹
(*Coleoptera: Lampyridae*)

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Matheteus theveneti LeConte is, as far as I have been able to ascertain, the only North American species of Lampyridae in which the dorsal surface is largely roseate. The reason for this reversal of character especially in the Pacific Northwest where the species are in large part black, has been difficult to understand. About the only collections of any size have been made by Mrs. Dorothy McKey-Fender and Mr. L. C. Peterson who have managed to get me quite a series. These were collected near the Seven Devils Road, a couple of miles south of Charleston, on the Oregon Coast.

Mrs. McKey-Fender had noticed that the flight time for the species is quite brief, usually confined to from about ten days to two weeks.

On April 26, 1969, I was privileged to observe this species in that area, which is along a narrow north-south ridge. On each side of this ridge is a deep, heavily thicketed ravine. The most abundant trees of these ravines are: *Alnus rubra* Bong., *Picea sitchensis* (Bong.) Carr., *Chamaecyparis Lawsoniana* Parl. and *Myrica californica* Cham. Shrubs of the area are: *Rubus spectabilis* Pursh., *Vaccinium ovatum* Pursh. and *Gaultheria Shallon* Pursh. About the only plants of importance constituting a so-called herb layer are: *Polystichum munitum* (Kaulf.) Presl. and *Struthiopteris spicant* (L.) Weis.

In these thicketed areas these roseate beetles show up fairly well and would be readily distinguishable except that they are emergent at the time that the roseate petals of the Salmon Berry (*Rubus spectabilis*) are being dropped. The beetles resemble those fallen leaves in size, shape, and color. The similarity is quite noticeable in the shaded areas of the thickets. Quite a number of fallen petals were examined in the anticipation that there might be yet another beetle.

The advantage of an apparent protective device such as this is obvious. In almost any other situation or time the beetles would be much more conspicuous and ready game for predators.

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NOTICE

SHARP & MUIR: THE COMPARATIVE ANATOMY OF THE MALE GENITAL TUBE IN COLEOPTERA. The classic 1912 monograph and six other papers by the same authors have been reprinted. 304 pp., 43 pls., bound. \$10.00. An essential book for all coleopterists. Entomological Society of America, 4603 Calvert Road, College Park, Maryland, 20740.